Losses to D.T.C.

1791. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to identify the reasons for huge losses being incurred by the Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures for ensuring the long-term viability of D.T.C.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Government are continually monitoring the functioning of the Delhi Transport Corporation. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has *vide* his Report No. 6 (Commercial) of 1990 examined in detail the functioning of DTC. This Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has been laid in both Houses of Parliament on 12-7-1991.

(c) and (d). Steps are taken on a continuing basis to increase productivity, rates per unit cost, enforce economy measures, improve crew behaviour and quality of service and prevent leakage of revenue with a view to increasing revenue collection rates, working loss, rationalise routes etc.

A Group of Ministers chaired by the Finance Minister has also been constituted to work out an inter-connected package for the rehabilitation of DTC in order to ensure its long term viability.

Alleged mismanagement in some Departments of Coffee Board

1792. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRAVBHAURS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding alleged mismanagement in the Coffee Research Stations and Public Relation Departments of Coffee Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As regards Coffee Research Stations, there are no complaints of mismanagement. However, occasional criticism about the inadequacy of Research and poor performance have been received. There are also no complaints on public relations matters. Research activities are being reviewed by Government through a recently constituted Scientific Advisory Committee in the Ministry of Commerce.

[*Translation*]

Opium Cultivation

1793. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where opium is cultivated;

(b) whether the cultivation of opium has been banned in some of the areas;

(c) if so, the names of these areas and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check it;

(d) whether Government have issued licences for the cultivation of opium in some more areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Cultivation of opium poppy is undertaken only in the notified tracts in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh under strict licensing control and supervision of the Central Government. Such tracts have been notified for the opium crop year 1991-92 *vide* Govt. of India Notification No. 1/91, dated 1st October, 1991.

To check illicit cultivation of opium poppy, different drug law enforcement agencies keep strict vigil and stringent penal measures have been provided under the N.D.P.S. Act, 1985.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Foreign Assistance for Projects

1794. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries including Germany and France have offered to aid some projects in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where the said projects are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The donor countries normally offer assistance in terms of an overall pledge. Thereafter aid negotiations, as a continuous process, are held with each donor countrry for various project and non-project needs of the economy. The details such as project and non-project assistance, terms and conditions etc. are known only after the agreements with donor countries are finalised.

[English]

Customs Officials Aiding Smuggling Activities

1795. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Customs officials posted at the airports found aiding and abetting the smuggling activities during each of the last three years, airport-wise;

(b) the action taken against such officials and the number of them posted again to the airports inspite of their involvement;

(c) whether the procedure for posting of Customs officials at the airports is being followed strictly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The